

Navajo Nation Funeral COVID-19 Guidelines

Overview

The following are guidelines in having a funeral service to honor the death of a loved one, who was a victim of COVID-19. All funeral activities should be conducted to protect the health and wellbeing of attendees and funeral home staff.

Center for Disease Control Guidelines:

There is currently no known risk associated with being in the same room at a funeral or visitation service with the body of someone who died due to COVID-19. People should consider not touching the body of someone who has died of COVID-19.

Navajo Department of Health Guidelines:

Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-004 states that no more than five (5) people should attend the funeral service. Furthermore, Public Health Emergency Order No. 2020-007 states that all individuals in the Navajo Nation shall wear face masks in public, including funeral services.

Navajo Nation Division of Community Development (DCD)

Guidelines:

Navajo Nation Chapters will continue to remain closed to the public. However, chapters can provide non-contact services via phone calls and email. Please contact your designated Chapter for further information and concerns.

Navajo Nation Land Department Guidelines:

The Navajo Nation Homesite Lease Regulations states that all modern burial sites and graves are prohibited within the homesite lease premises. All burial sites should be in a community approved cemetery (See Section 17.08-J, Resolution No. RCD-74-16). Fine and fees will be issued for illegal burials in open range locations.

Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Guidelines:

The Navajo Division of Social Services COVID-19 Burial Assistance assists Navajo families with the loss of a loved one due to COVID-19. The criteria for the COVID-19 Burial Assistance, the deceased must:

1. Be a member of the Navajo Nation with an enrolled census number and;
 2. Expired from COVID-19, as verified by the appropriate authority.
- Applications for burial assistance are available at all contracted mortuaries. For more information regarding applications, call the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services at (866) 347-2403.

STANDARD FUNERAL

Adult/children	\$2,500.00
Children	\$1,500.00
Still Born / Fetus Container	\$100.00

NATIVE TRADITIONAL FUNERAL

No Casket	\$1,000.00
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CREMATION	\$1,300.00
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Navajo Family Assistance Program List of Contracted Mortuaries

Alameda Mortuary
Albuquerque, NM
(505) 898-3160

Compassion Mortuary
Grants, NM
(866) 292-0086

Cope Memorial Chapel
Gallup, NM
(505) 722-6671

Cope Memorial Chapel
Kirtland, NM
(505) 598-9636

Daniel's Family Funeral Services
Socorro, NM
(575) 835-1530

Desert View Funeral Home
Shiprock, NM
(505) 368-4607

Rollie Mortuary
Gallup, NM
(505) 863-4452

Silver Creek Mortuary
Gallup, NM
(505) 371-3690

Tse Bonito Mortuary
Tse Bonito, NM
(505) 371-5565

Summit Funeral Home
Saint Michaels, AZ
(928) 871-1120

Valley Ridge Mortuary
Tuba City, AZ
(928) 640-7677

The listed mortuaries are in an agreement with DSS Navajo Financial Assistance Services to provide burial services to individuals who qualify for Burial Assistance and reserve the right to decline requests for services. List of mortuaries are subject to change.

Funeral Guidance During COVID-19 State Of Emergency

TIME OF DEATH

Contact your local funeral home, who should follow routine infection prevention when coming into contact with a decedent with confirmed or suspected COVID-19.



FUNERAL HOME

- Embalming
 - Cremation
- Use precautions as any other decedent with a contagious disease.



BURIAL

- Graveside service
 - Traditional/cultural burial
- Limit to 5 people or less in a room at a time, stay 6 ft apart, and wear a face mask.



POST BURIAL

- Reception
- Washing/Cleansing
- Tsin Bó'ósni' Binaach'il



Reception is not recommended.

Traditional practice should be shortened to protect personal hygiene. Communal traditional medicine cups should be cleaned after each use or limited to one person per cup.